

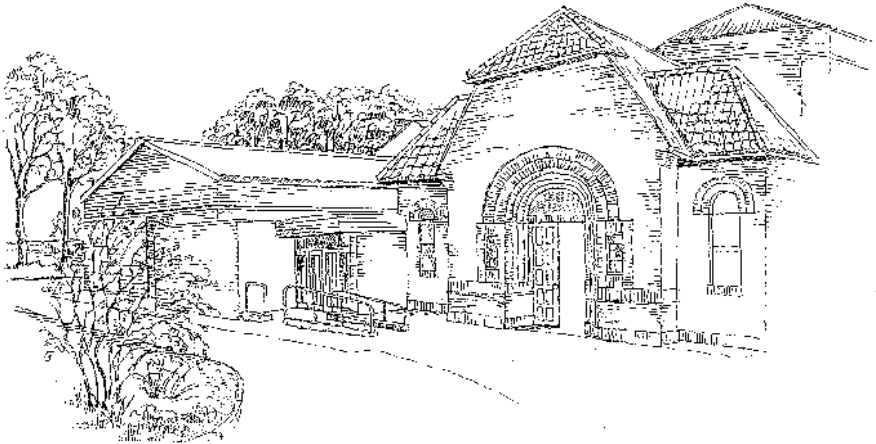


The
**United
Reformed
Church**

Sherwood

1 Edwards Lane,
Nottingham,
NG5 3AA

www.sherwoodurc.co.uk



The Newsletter

February/March 2019

Open doors to adventure
close the door to your worries

Minister's Letter

The year has passed and the New years resolutions are drawing thin – although not here at Sherwood as I discovered at the Light Refreshments in January. The theme was ‘looking forward – looking back’ and I expected to discover what people were looking forward to by asking what their New Year Resolutions were – no one had made any! Instead we talked about things we like to look back at, which led on to what we were looking forward to in the coming year.

I looked back at how I never achieved my childhood dream to be an astronomer simply because of what three academics said or did during my interview at Manchester University when I was twenty.

I looked forward to the challenges, excitements and regrets posed by my final 18 months of employment before my pension kicks in and I am kicked out of the Manse!

Looking back I realised that I would not have been the person I am if things had gone differently – I would not have grown into the person I am today. Our past story is not there just to give us something to reminisce about or be nostalgic over, it is what has shaped us. It is also something that should shape what we do in the year ahead, and help determine whether the things we look back at next year will make us sad or proud.

In this magazine we are looking back and looking forward: looking back to memories of Addison Street, looking forward to the fruit of our Welcoming Wednesdays. Let our looking back as a church strengthen our determination not just to look forward, but to grow forward

David

A prayer for the Church Family

The New year has passed, and the nights are already drawing out. Although there is likely to be a fair bit of bad weather ahead of us, and temperatures are set to drop, there is a lightness about each day as winter lays down the foundations for Spring. Time for brooding is gone, it is now time to look forwards.

So we pray, asking God to fulfil the hope that the lengthening days bring, and to protect us from the cold of winter that we may flower in spring. Our prayers are for everyone connected to the church family, for those loved ones who are important to us, and for all the people in our community.

*Extract from a Christmas letter to Anne H
from Suzanne who used to help
in our Church some years ago*

All is well for us. It's hard to believe that this is now Mum & Dad's third Christmas since moving in with me here! They have settled so well, and there are many aspects of life here that they enjoy more than when they were in Perth. That said, we are horrified by the President and the politics (although the situation in the UK is pretty dire too – goodness knows what is going to happen with Theresa May and Brexit...)

I'm still loving my work. It's a joy to be teaching people who are preparing for ministry, and I'm also giving a lot of talks in churches these days, mostly some material I have worked up on theology/scripture/pastoral care in relation to dementia. I'll be heading off on a major road trip shortly after Christmas, down to Texas in the first instance to give a paper at a conference, and then across to northern Florida to teach in intensive course for a week. After that I'm hoping to have a week off to

do some bird watching down there before heading back up here for the start of semester. Earlier this year, I had about 10 days in Brazil (! my first time ever in South America) . We have a D. Min cohort in southern Brazil, and I taught a week-long intensive there, with a translator, since I don't know any Portuguese! I managed a few days of bird-watching at a wonderful eco-lodge just before that.

Suzanne

What's Happened

The Great Notts Christmas Toy Appeal



Our **Toy Service** was held on 2nd December and as the photograph shows we had a good amount of gifts for the appeal. On the following Tuesday, Howard and I took the gifts to the collection point at St John's Church Hall in Bilborough.

Gifts were delivered to Bilborough over three mornings and during the three afternoons 31 agencies including the NHS, Nottingham City Council and

other child support programmes collected gifts for handing out.

I volunteered to undertake kitchen duty and kept volunteers and collectors supplied with refreshments throughout the event.

Over the three days the project ran a rota of 31 volunteers who helped sort the gifts into relevant age groups and assisted those coming to collect gifts. More than 50 churches, businesses and individuals made donations to the appeal. It is thought that over 2,000 children benefited from the generous donations.

The appeal organiser wishes to thank everyone for their donations. "Your support is particularly valued at this time because, as you know, the appeal itself came very close to collapsing when Family Care so tragically closed during 2018. Now thanks to the work of volunteers in the run up to the campaign and during the collection period, as well as the amazing response to the appeal for donations, its future is assured."

Bev Lockyer

Christmas Worship



On Sat 8 Dec, David and Tricia managed to get along to the **Ecumenical Carols at the Woodthorpe Park Christmas Fair**. David joined the choir deep inside the large greenhouse and sang heartily to the customers of the cafe. Most people sat and listened to all the carols in each slot, and often spontaneously applauded; some joined in singing. David felt it really brought the Spirit of Christmas into the event.

On Saturday 15th December the Church was **festooned with red flowers, cyclamen and poinsettia** and rapidly began to look

very festive with the tree standing proud near the organ adorned with multi coloured lights. We had wondered if we would be able to decorate the Church as we had had trouble with the heating but all was well as we had a new boiler and heat!



On Sunday 23rd over 30 people enjoyed our “**Pop-up-Nativity and Carols by Candlelight**” Service. It was good to see some visitors, who were treated to new (and mainly Christian) words to the 12 days of Christmas before singing some favourite Carols. It certainly was very different.

Christmas Eve saw over 20 people including a returning mother and child from last year and a new family who joined in the making of **Christingles** for the Service, and then helped in setting out the knitted nativity scene as we sang through some carols for the young at heart.

When the Christingles were lit the church looked magical.

The **Midnight Service** on Christmas Eve with communion was quiet and reflective - which was just right for the ten or so folk

who joined us for some stillness before the hustle and bustle of the following day.



Christmas morning was a short Service to welcome the birth of Jesus with contemplation on this very special day. We welcomed more visitors to the service and it was a shame that, having seen our doors open, a family arrived just as we were leaving. But we wished them a Happy Christmas and shared our gold coins.

PRIME TIME

Around twenty years ago a new venture was started at Sherwood U.R.C., a luncheon club. The idea behind it was not only to give people a hot meal but to provide companionship and to perhaps form friendships. That Club was called “Prime Time” and it ran until last year 2018.

We’ve seen many people come over the years but because of the very nature of the Club many of them are no longer with us. People were not just from our Church some belonged to other local churches and one or two came from the com-

munity. One of the things that people looked forward to was the yearly outing. These outings were very much enjoyed going to various places. One that seemed to stand out in peoples memories was going to Ashford-in-the-water, in Derbyshire. The bus we hired had a lift midway down the side, there were many laughs going up and down on this.

Last year we didn't meet in the Church because there were so few of us but went out to Pubs in Notts, running down the money in our bank account. The account is now closed and Prime Time was formally wound up at a final AGM in January.

A very big thank you to all the volunteers who over the years gave of their time, in the kitchen, on transport and administration, without them it wouldn't have happened!!!

Pam R

Looking Forward!

Welcoming Wednesdays

Here are details of our regular Welcoming Wednesdays - meetings. that are open for anyone to join and are intended for everyone to enjoy.

They are about friendship and there is always plenty of time to chat and enjoy a cuppa - so they are for you, whether you are a 'churchy' person or not.

At a Loose End?

Timetabled for the first Wednesday of each month, 2.30 - 4.00, the Knit & Natter group mentioned in the last magazine has evolved into "At a Loose End?"

It will still be centred around fundraising (and currently knitting blankets for the National Police Aid Convoy) it is at heart a place to meet up and make friends, knit if you like, or play Dominoes or 'Toss the Pig', or just sit and listen. Oh. No doubt there will be a cuppa and a biscuit to share!

Do you know anyone who might be 'at a loose end'? Then invite them along to this group.

Talking on the Way

On the second Wednesday of each month 'Talking on the Way' is an opportunity to talk about things to do with faith, and ask any question about the church or Christianity that comes into your mind. Although we often have some written questions, we usually drift off at a tangent and have a much more interesting discussion!

Anyone can join, Christian or not, at any time. You do not have to have been last time to enjoy this time, or know anything about Christianity.

Food & Friendship

Food & Friendship has replaced Prime Time, *usually* on the third Wednesday 12.00 – 3.00. The plan is to go out for lunch together, somewhere affordable that we can get to on the bus (or somewhere else if we know there are enough cars, and people are nimble enough to get in and out easily).

If you want to come along, see Pam R.

Light Refreshment

Taking the fourth Wednesday of the month slot, 2.30 – 4.00, Light Refreshment is not about food, but about the refresh-

ment we get from knowing each other better (we do have 'tea' and biscuits!) .

Each month we have a topic and a 'speaker'. Sometimes the speaker is invited in to tell us about something we have heard about (e.g. Street pastors, rug making, the police convoy). Often the speaker is one of us sharing an interest, the story of a holiday, or something that lets us know more about them as a person.

This is certainly a good group for you to bring a friend to.

Saturday Coffee

On almost every Saturday of the the year there is a Coffee Morning from 10:30 to 12:00. There is no program, just plenty of time to sit and chat. The proceeds support Christian Aid. At midday those who want to 'eat out' walk round to the Manor for lunch together.

Sunday Worship

Every Sunday (even when it snows!) - that's 4 or 5 times a month! - from 10.30 to 11.30 (approx) we meet to worship God and give thanks for the wonderful world in which we live. We sing hymns old and new, we pray, we reflect on how to grapple with the world's problems guided by the teaching of Jesus.

... and from the church meeting

The service led by the **Worship Group** received very positive comments. We need three of four people to get together to group shape a simple act of worship for the first of four such Sundays this year. The plan is that anyone interested or even

just curious will meet on the 6th Saturday before at 11:00 at the Coffee Morning. For Sunday 17th March that is 9th **February** - please come along.

Sherwood Art Week planning meetings have started. The “Secret Garden” Craft Fair is planned for 22nd June. Tricia needs someone (or two) to attend a couple of meetings to see what goes on, with a view to becoming the Church’s link person(s) for SAW 2020.

The church meeting agreed to adopt the **Helen Lowenstein Memorial Trust** as our main charity for this year. Helen was the midwife who so inspired us over the plight of expectant mothers in Liberia that we knitted baby clothes to encourage them to see a midwife, paid to transport a batch of medicine, and helped support Abdul to get a Nottingham Masters in Public Health. The trust will *make grants to trainee midwives in Liberia who would not otherwise have sufficient funds to undertake their training to become qualified midwives.*

We will offer free use of our rooms to Stella and Peter, Helens parents, for any promotional or fundraising events they need, and we will have special after-communion collections from Easter onwards.

Articles

Memories of Addison Street Congregational Church

As I sat and listened to the names of the fallen which were read out at the Armistice Service last November.

W.J. Chamberlain, G.F. Guy, F.W. Roe and D. Casajuana, I realised that the latter name was also on the war memorial of the

Addison Street Church where I was a member during my “formative years”.



I guess some readers of this article may know very little of this Church which later played a part in a union with Sherwood Congregational Church.

The site of the Church was on Addison Street which runs from Dryden Street to Forest Road at the corner of Arboretum Street (next to the Girls High School). In 1867 a “tin Chapel” (corrugated Iron) was established as a Daughter Church from Castle Gate Congregational Church in the City. The area to the North was expanding with many up market houses being built (nowadays rather down market!) Such was the need that the foundation stone of a permanent Church was laid in 1883.

It was a common design, very much like an Anglican Church – without the altar, the pews in the nave stretched from side to side with no central walkway, two side aisles and further pews to the sides, a total capacity of I guess 300 plus seats.

There was a very ornate stone pulpit with marble columns, steps leading up to the chancel with choir stalls, at the end of which were the War memorials below a very outstanding stained glass window.

David Legge used his photographic prowess to enlarge pictures of the memorials allowing counting of those featured. In the first World War 71 served (all men), and 15 lost their lives. You can perhaps read there names on this detail from the main photograph at the start of this article..



During the second World War 54 served (including 8 women) and 3 men died, one being Dennis Casajuana.

John Whitby and I were both in the Scouts and the choir and took part in many of the other activities, badminton, variety shows etc., I am indebted to Pam Whitby who copied me an edition of the "Wayfarer" magazine of September 1952. Here are a few snippets - *"Norman Parr and Barry Wadsworth reached their majority (then 21) after which they entered two years National Service. My father took over the post of Choir master. Miss Pamela Lomax who has recently left Milton*

Mount College is to transfer membership to Addison Street”
(and later became Mrs. Pam Whitby!)

A more telling extract from the “Wayfarer” goes as follows and I quote *“A gift day should be held on the 16th October in order to meet our existing overdraft at the Bank and to make good our weekly deficiency of £5. which exists throughout the year!”*

The Church closed in 1966 and the stained glass windows which had been removed during the 1939-1945 war and replaced after were again removed by my Fathers firm (Pope and Parr) and stored in the cellar at Edwards Lane before being sold possibly to America.

The then minister Rev. Eric Way joined Rev. Cyril Lucraft as did many Addisonians . I am led to understand that at first there was some of “them and us” but it didn’t last long as we soon integrated. Funds from the sale of assets of Addison Street allowed the building of the Church hall, kitchen and toilets at Sherwood. Several people joined the choir Stan Wadsworth became organist, Ron Masser was for many years a very able Church secretary and a generous benefactor. David Hughes was the Chair of the Maintenance committee for many years.

The communion table we presently use is from Addison Street as is also a silver set of communion servers (not now used, but were lent to St. Martins during a ‘flu outbreak)

If you wish to view photographs of the interior of Addison Street Church, these can be seen on one of the lecterns on the table adjacent to the organ and a pen sketch of the exterior hangs in the garden room

I have made reference to Congregational Churches, they became United Reformed Church’s in 1972 with the amalgamation with the Presbyterians and others. I conclude on a very emotional note for me. After the Church closed it was used as

a stationery outlet for a few years before being demolished. I remember standing at the bottom of the chancel steps, holding an armful of copy paper on the very spot where I was married – very upsetting.



Norman P.

Whose job is it anyway?

Once there were four people named Everybody, Somebody, Anybody and Nobody.

There was an important job to be done and Everybody was sure that Somebody would do it. Anybody could have done it, but Nobody did it.

Somebody got angry about that, because it was Everybody's job.

Everybody thought Anybody could do it, but Nobody realised that Everybody wouldn't do it. It ended up that Everybody blamed Somebody when Nobody did what Anybody could have. *anon*

Diary

February

2	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
3	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship Ian Pickering
6	Wed	14:30	At a loose end? - Friendship Group
7	Thu	11:00	Chill-out
9	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
10	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship Dave Dennis
13	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way
13	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting
14	Thu	11:00	Chill-out
16	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
17	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship David
23	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
24	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship David Litchfield
27	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment "Rag Rugs"
28	Thu	11:00	Chill-out

March

2	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
3	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship David Litchfield
6	Wed	14:30	At a loose end? - Friendship Group
7	Thu	11:00	Chill-out
9	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning
10	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship David
13	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way
14	Thu	11:00	Chill-out
16	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning

17	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	Worship Group
20	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting	
21	Thu	11:00	Chill-out	
23	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
24	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	David
24	Sun	12:00	Church Meeting	
27	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment	"Suffragettes"
28	Thu	11:00	Chill-out	
30	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
31	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	David

April

3	Wed	14:30	At a loose end? - Friendship Group	
4	Thu	11:00	Chill-out	
6	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
7	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	David Litchfield
10	Wed	14:30	Talking on the Way	
13	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
14	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	David
20	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
21	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	Paul Burton
24	Wed	14:30	Light Refreshment "National Police Aid Convoys"	
24	Wed	19:30	Elders' Meeting	
25	Thu	11:00	Chill-out	
27	Sat	10:00	Coffee Morning	
28	Sun	10:30	Morning Worship	David

Rotas

		Flowers	Refreshments	Vestry
February	3	Pam R	George & Margaret	Pam R
	10		Jean & Christine	Alan
	17	Margaret	Pam R	Joy
	24		Norman	Sue J
March	3	Doreen	Sheila & Ann	Pam R
	10		George & Margaret	Christine
	17		Pam R	Alison
	24		Jean & Christine	Bev
	31		Norman	Jean
Apr	7		Sheila & Ann	Alan
	14		George & Margaret	Stefan

		Door Steward	Reader	Prayers
February	3	Joy	Howard	Stefan
	10	Howard	Barbara	Tricia
	17	Pam W	Sheila	WL
	24	Howard	Mavis S	Joy
March	3	Margaret	Jean	Alan
	10	Norman	Roy	Stefan
	17	Jean	Norman	WG
	24	Joy	Howard	Tricia
	31	Howard	Pam W	Stefan
Apr	7	Pam W	Christine	WL
	14	Howard	Barbara	Joy

The 2019 rotas were not ready when we went to press

Regular Weekly Events

at Sherwood U.R.C

Mon	10.00 – 12.00	Line Dance	H
	6.00 – 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness	H
	7.30 – 9.00	Singing for fun choir (term time)	H
	7.30 – 9.00	Yoga Class	Gr
Tue	9.30 – 12.30	Toddler Talk (sign language)	H
	3.30 – 8.15	Emma Cain Dance Class	H
	7.30 – 9.00	Sherwood Women’s Institute (last Tue)	Gr
Wed	10.00 – 11.00	Weight Watchers	H
	2.30 - 4.00	At a Loose End? – friendship	1 st Wed
	2.30 – 4.00	Talking on the Way discussion	2 nd Wed G
	12.00 – 1.30	Food & Friendship <i>occasionally</i>	3 rd Wed
	2.30 – 4.00	Light Refreshment – friendship	4 th Wed Gr
	7.00 – 9.30	Belters Choir	H
Thur	11.00 – 1.00	‘Chill Out’ drop-in (term time) for under fives and their carers	H
	2.15 – 3.15	Notts Community Transport monthly	H
	6.00 – 6.45	FitSteps Health and Fitness	H
	7.30 – 9.30	Reformed Players	H
	7.30 – 9.30	Beeston Big Band practice night	Ch
Fri	11.00 – 1.30	Stroke Club (fortnightly)	H
Sat	10.30 – 12.00	Christian Aid Coffee Morning	Gr

H: The Hall; G: Gallery; Ch: Church; Gr: Garden Room
see www.sherwoodurc.co.uk/reservations

General Information

Minister: Revd David Legge, 0115 952 5759
Contact David for Baptisms, Weddings and Funerals.

WORSHIP

Sunday Morning at 10.30 with activities for children.
with **communion** on the third Sunday of the month
Check inside the magazine for special services

Voluntary offerings maintain the work of the Church
and details of planned giving can be obtained from
The Gift Aid Secretary (07757 311531)

Church Secretary: Stefan Janiszewski 07812 975625
secretary@sherwoodurc.co.uk

Assistant Ch. Secretary: Bev Lockyer 981 0960
secretary@sherwoodurc.co.uk

Hall Booking *Send a text to* 07952 324912
or use the website: www.sherwoodurc.co.uk
and click on "I want to book a room"
